

REMARKS**Summary of the Office Action**

Claims 1 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claims 2-3 and 5-6 are allowed.

Response to the Office Action

Applicant respectfully thanks the Examiner for allowing claims 2-3 and 5-6.

Claims 1 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to particularly point out and distinctly claim Applicant's invention. Claim 1 recites an electric parking brake mechanism, including an input shaft connected to a side of an electric motor, an output shaft connected to a side of the brake mechanism for pressing a friction member to a braked member, and a cam mechanism interposed between the input shaft and the output shaft. The cam mechanism includes a plurality of cam members each having a cam face a radius of which is gradually increased relative to a rotational center. The parking brake mechanism includes a configuration wherein the input shaft is not driven by the electric motor, the output shaft is driven a force from the friction member, and all of the plurality of cam members have been operated to move to sides of large diameters to hamper rotation of the output shaft. Support for these features is provided at, for example, at page 13, ll. 9-25, and Fig. 9, of Applicant's specification.

The Office Action states that "the phrase 'the input shaft is not driven' is not clear from the instant specification in that the input shaft 31 appears to be sometimes 'driven' or brought

into a rotating and unrotating (not rotating) states under various conditions as per the instant specification under the operation of the electric parking brake mechanism,” and requires clarification. It is agreed that the specification discloses more than one operational configuration of the embodiment of the invention. Three such examples follow.

Page 11, line 12 – page 12, line 11 describes, and Fig. 7 illustrates, one operational configuration where the electric motor M is operated, and the input shaft 31 is driven in a brake operating direction.

Page 12, line 12 – page 13, line 8 describes, and Fig. 8 illustrates, another operational configuration where the electric motor M is operated in a reverse direction, and the input shaft 31 is driven in a reverse direction , *i.e.* in a brake releasing direction.

Page 13, ll. 9-25 describes, and Fig. 9 illustrates, yet another operational configuration where the electric motor M is in a stationary state, and the input shaft 31 is not driven, *e.g.* in a parking brake operational configuration. In the parking brake operational configuration, the output shaft 16 is driven by a force of the friction pad P and the piston 3, and cam members 25, 25 and 30 have been operated to move to sides of large diameters to hamper rotation of the output shaft 16 by locking members 28, 28 being wedged between non-rotating member 21 and cam members 25, 25.

Claim 1 recites features of one operational configuration, not all operational configurations disclosed in the specification. Applicant respectfully submits that the features of a parking brake mechanism having a configuration wherein the input shaft is not driven by the electric motor, the output shaft is driven by a force from the friction member, and all of the plurality of cam members have been operated to move to sides of large diameters to hamper rotation of the output shaft., as recited in claim 1, is definite and fully supported by the

specification at least at page 13, ll. 9-25, and Fig. 9. Applicant requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, of claims 1 and 4, be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

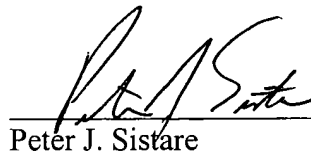
If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted

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By:



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